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## BOOK REVIEWS



IN CHARGE OF

M. E. CAMERON, R.N.

EDUCATION, THE OLD AND THE NEW, SCHOOL MANAGEMENT, THE EXPERIENCE OF HALF A CENTURY. By William P. Hastings. Price, \$1.00. Mailing, 15 cents. Published by the author. Battle Creek, Michigan.

The experiences of fifty years must necessarily prove to be interesting reading, especially when it is given in a personal way as in the present case. Realizing the many difficulties that teachers in the primary and elementary schools encounter and the discouraging results that ensue, the author marks some of the mistakes of the past rule and suggests changes in administration and practical teaching which he considers could be made with great benefit both to the pupil and to the teacher. He urges, too, better qualification on the part of the school officer and committee-man. Fathers and mothers, he thinks, might enlarge their interest in the children they turn over to teachers who are, perhaps, even less interested in the young people under their care.

He gives some truly shocking statistics of the inadequacy of the teaching in the elementary schools, drawing his information from examinations for entrance to West Point, applications being from all the states in the Union. The writer, in spite of the defects he find in the present system of education in the public schools, preserves a fine optimism for the future development of work in the teaching field in America, thinking that with intelligent and systematic care of the physical well-being of the pupils, and more personal enthusiasm on the part of the teacher, there will follow the now much-needed reform for which he pleads.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR STUDY AND PREVENTION OF INFANT MORTALITY. Transactions of the Second Annual Meeting, Chicago, Illinois, November 16-18, 1911. Printed by the Franklin Press, Baltimore, Maryland.

The report of the transactions of this society, still in its infancy, occupies four hundred pages. The membership at the close of the second year was 525. Thirty-four states, the District of Columbia,